

ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE AND VIRGINIA ADVERTISER.

THE GAZETTE.

THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 30, 1859.

FUN BEHIND THE SCENES

EXPERIENCES OF A THEATRICAL SUPERINTENDENT.—Having been initiated in all the branches of a "supe," from being an attendant on the king down to a common foot-soldier, I really began to take a liking to it. The "sups," or mature acquaintances—with the exception of the practical jokes they were continually playing—I found to be a nice lot of fellows, and got along very well with them.

On one occasion a new pantomime was being performed. The supers, some eighteen or nineteen in number, were to take the parts of fishes. There were six blue, six red, and six yellow—each part being a blue fish; the dress was the representation of a fish, the body representing the lower part of the fish, with two holes for the legs and two for the arms, with the hair curled up before him like Barron's mermaid. A mask with shoulder-pieces, representing the head. On assuming this dress, you could not tell one "sup" from another, unless the mask was torn off. We all stood in order, preparing to go on, and were supposed to attendants on Neptune, the King of the Sea.

There were also some twenty or thirty ballet-girls engaged in the piece, who went on before us. While entering they had to pass the fishes, who generally stood huddled together in the entrance. Among them was one who was the quintessence of deviltry—in fact, overflowing with mischievousness. This fellow, whom I will call Mr. W., used to crouch on his knees and seize a girl by the ankle, thereby detaining her from going on the stage at the proper time.

At one time it was his misfortune to seize the ankle of the principal dancer, who was the wife of one of the pantomimists. The engaged dancer, not having time to make inquiries, got on the stage some minutes too late for the music, and after her exit, she made her husband acquainted with the indignities he had suffered.

All the fishes were brought up for examination, when the husband commenced as follows:

"Vich von ze dam rascables catch you by ze leg?"

His wife answered,

"I thinks it was zed red fish."

All the red fish were commanded to take off their heads.

"Now all ze red fish get in ze line."

The red fish having "got in a line," the husband requested her to "pick out ze dam rascables."

Accordingly, red fish No. 1 was ordered to step out.

"Is ze fellaire?" asked the Frenchman.

"Now, sure, look me straight in ze eye, said the wife.

The fellow, who was no other than Joe and the one in question, stared the woman out of countenance.

"No," said she, "I don't thinks zat's ze vich von ze dam rascables."

All the red fishes were examined in their turns, but the culprit could not be found—then the blue and yellow, with like results. The Frenchman, not liking to discharge all suspicion, sent for the master of the house without satisfaction, but contented himself with observing,

"Zat's ze first sacre dam scoundrel he shall catch cutt up zed hammonkey shimes, vose ze fellaire zat catch his wife by ze leg."

In the piece, a bottle of brandy was furnished every night by the Frenchman, he not admiring toast-water, (which is generally used in place of wine on the stage,) but using a bottle of the *bonne fide* stuff. The

whole was always kept up for a week, and an empty bottle put on its place—stolen by some one, but vose the plums he had to find a out.

The thief struck the Frenchman, and he bled accordingly. He smacked the mouth and set it in its usual place on the table. As usual the bottle was taken, and an empty one put in its place—taken by none other than Joe. Of course we each had a part, he retaining the lion's share.

At the end of the scene, all the fish were ordered to "get in a line" and take their heads off. This being done the Frenchman walked up to No. 1, seizing him by the ear, and led him down to the border lights, in one of the entrances, when lo! a black ring was discovered around his mouth.

"Ha!" said the Frenchman, "at last I catch out your tongue, saire! Ah ha! I sees ze vine in ze tongue, in ze eye, and all over!"

The fish looked up innocently, and declared that he had not stolen anything.

"Stick out your tongue, saire! Ah ha!

I sees ze vine in ze tongue, in ze eye, and all over!"

Then, taking the supposed culprit by the ear, he led him in front of the rest of the fishes, to hold him up as an example, when he could not dislodge the whole, which he dared not do. So the Frenchman went away as wise as he came, revolting in his mind some other plan to catch the thief. At last he fixed on the following: Perhaps every one does not know what a "trick bottle" is—one of the uninitiated ones—whom he bet a quarter he could not pull the cork out—a quarter was said than done, he seized the cork between his teeth, when whiz bang! the fish head was blown up in the tiles, and the astonished "sup" with head on fire, ran screaming for help. The Frenchman quickly seized him, and doused him by the neck and shoulders, into a barrel of water, then, calling his wife exclaimed:

"Ha! I catch ze dam scoundrel zat steal ze vine! Is die ze fellaire zat catch you by ze leg?"

"Wait," said she. "Now, you saire, look me straight in ze eye."

The poor fellow, who could scarcely see at all, let alone look any one in the eye, was unable to do so, upon which she exclaimed:

"Yais, sacre! zat is ze fellaire!"

"Na! I have you at last, have I?" said the Frenchman; "you ze vellane zat catch my wife by ze leg: zen you drinks up all de vine. Now, saire, nevare show your face here again, or I arrests you!" and, taking the unfortunate victim by the neck, he thrust him unmercifully into the street, congratulating himself on his sharpness in discovering the win thief. What the real thief was, he never found out.

WATER COOLERS AND REFRIGERATORS.—I have endeavored to obtain for my sales this season the best WATER COOLERS and REFRIGERATORS which could be had. Please see them. (On hand several Refrigerators of old style, which are offered at cost.) JOHN OGDEN.

TOOL purchased by DANIEL F. HOOD.

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(CHARTERED BY THE STATE OF GEORGIA.)

CAPITAL PRIZE, \$50,000⁰⁰—TICKETS ONLY \$100.

WOOD, EDDY & CO, MANAGERS,

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THE following Scheme will be drawn by WOOD, EDDY & CO, Managers of the SPARTA ACADEMY LOTTERY, in each of their Single Number Lotteries for JULY, 1859, at AUGUSTA, Ga., in public, under the superintendence of Commissioners.

CLASS 27 Draws Saturday, July 2, 1859.

CLASS 28 Draws Saturday, July 9, 1859.

CLASS 29 Draws Saturday, July 16, 1859.

CLASS 30 Draws Saturday, July 23, 1859.

CLASS 31 Draws Saturday, July 30, 1859.

ON THE PLAN OF SINGLE NUMBERS.

50,000 TICKETS \$450 PRICES!! NEARLY ONE PRIZE TO EVERY NINE TICKETS

MAGNIFICENT SCHEME, 1859

To be Drawn each Saturday in JULY, 1859

Prize of \$50,000—1 Prize of \$1,000

200 Prizes of \$100—50 Prizes of \$50

100 Prizes of \$25—50 Prizes of \$10

50 Prizes of \$10—50 Prizes of \$5

50 Prizes of \$5—50 Prizes of \$2

50 Prizes of \$2—50 Prizes of \$1

50 Prizes of \$1—50 Prizes of 50c

50 Prizes of 50c—50 Prizes of 25c

50 Prizes of 25c—50 Prizes of 10c

50 Prizes of 10c—50 Prizes of 5c

50 Prizes of 5c—50 Prizes of 2c

50 Prizes of 2c—50 Prizes of 1c

50 Prizes of 1c—50 Prizes of 50c

50 Prizes of 50c—50 Prizes of 25c

50 Prizes of 25c—50 Prizes of 10c

50 Prizes of 10c—50 Prizes of 5c

50 Prizes of 5c—50 Prizes of 2c

50 Prizes of 2c—50 Prizes of 1c

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50 Prizes of 5c—50 Prizes of 2c

50 Prizes of 2c—50 Prizes of 1c

50 Prizes of 1c—50 Prizes of 50c

50 Prizes of 50c—50 Prizes of 25c

50 Prizes of 25c—5